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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/502,065	01/18/2005	W Wayne Lautt	14233.17USWO	2089
23552	7590	06/14/2006	EXAMINER	
MERCHANT & GOULD PC P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			GUDIBANDE, SATYANARAYAN R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1654	

DATE MAILED: 06/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/502,065	Applicant(s) LAUTT ET AL.	
	Examiner Satyanarayana R. Gudibande	Art Unit 1654	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions, which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-5 and 16-28, are drawn to manufacture of a medicament using a nitric oxide increasing compound and a glutathione increasing compound useful in the treatment of insulin resistance.

Group II, claim(s) 6-8, 11, 29 and 30, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a hepatic nitric oxide increasing compound and a glutathione increasing compound.

Group III, claim(s) 9, 10, 12-15 and 26-28, drawn to a method of reducing insulin resistance having a lower than normal hepatic glutathione levels in a mammalian patient.

The inventions listed as Groups I to III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: According to PCT Rule 13.2, unity of invention is exists between a group of inventions only when there is technical relationship among the claimed inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features. The technical feature of group II is the pharmaceutical composition comprising a glutathione increasing and a nitric oxide increasing compound. Stoyanovsky, et al., (Cell Calcium, 1997,

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21(1), 19-29) discloses cysteine and nitrosylated cysteine in a buffer medium at physiological pH of 7.0 (page 25-6, bridging paragraph in column 2). Cysteine is the glutathione-increasing compound and nitrosylated cysteine is the nitric oxide increasing compound in a physiologic buffer. Thus the technical feature is not a contribution over the art and hence the claims lack unity.

The special technical feature of group I is manufacture of a medicament using a nitric oxide increasing compound and a glutathione increasing compound useful in the treatment of insulin resistance.

The special technical feature of group III is a method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient having a lower than normal hepatic glutathione levels.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Election of Species

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species: number of compounds that increase glutathione levels and number of compounds that increase nitric oxide levels. The species are independent or distinct because they are structurally distinct compounds, because, search for one compound would not leads to discovery of others.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species of glutathione increasing compound and a nitric oxide increasing compound in claims 4, 5, 7, 14, 15, 27 and 28 for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

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Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species of disorders recited in claim 24 for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Currently, claims 4, 5, 7, 14, 15, 24, 27 and 28 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

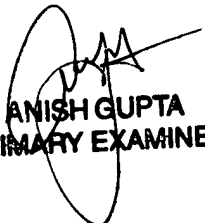
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Satyanarayana R. Gudibande whose telephone number is 571-272-8146. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4.30.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cecilia Tsang can be reached on 571-272-0562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



ANISH GUPTA
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Satyanarayana R. Gudibande, Ph.D.
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